AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. Fig. 1 has been amended to insert clarifying labels, as required by the Examiner. Entry of the attached replacement sheet is respectfully requested.

Attachment: Replacement sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been amended. Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Drawings

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawings have been objected to because Figure 1 does not contain any text labels for clarity.

As will be seen by the above amendments, Figure 1 has been amended to include labels identifying the power supply unit 15, processing unit 13, operating unit 14, USB flash disk 2, and card reader 3. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings and entry of the replacement sheet containing Figure 1 are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Bum (U. S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0039575). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

According to the Examiner, Bum discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The digital sound file playback reproducer of the present invention is designed to overcome the disadvantages of the conventional MP3 walkman. The invention provides a digital sound file playback reproducer that does not have an internal memory. This is discussed, for example, in the sentence bridging pages 5 and 6 of the specification. An external unit is utilized

to connect to a recording medium and the user can select a recording medium, such as a USB flash disk 2 or a memory card, via the connecting port 11 of the digital sound file playback reproducer. Therefore, the problem of non-expandable memory capacity which exists in the conventional digital sound file playback apparatus is resolved.

The processing unit 13 of the digital sound file playback reproducer of the present invention is used to pick up and process the sound file. In fact, the digital sound playback reproducer of the present invention does not require any internal memory as recited in claim 1. The digital sound file playback reproducer directly connects the external recording medium to the connecting port 11 of the reproducer such that downloading of the sound files via a computer is not required, and the sound files can be updated through other recording medium. As a result, the digital sound playback reproducer is portable and convenient to carry around since it does not require being connected to a host. The digital sound playback reproducer of the present invention further provides effective utilization of the existing memory cards and USB flash disks and expansion of the application of the recording media without the need for repeatedly purchasing expensive flash memory.

Bum teaches an MP3 player that requires internal flash memory to store MP3 files, such as the flash disk 200 to store MP3 files, as shown in Figs. 2, 3A and 3B of Bum. In other words, the flash disk 200 of Bum is installed within the MP3 player and the flash disk 200 is required to be connected to computer 250 in order to download the MP3 data from the computer 250 and store the MP3 data within the MP3 player (see paragraph 0032, page 2, Fig. 2). The conventional MP3 disclosed in Bum is extremely inconvenient when the MP3 file is required to

be updated as it needs to be connected to computer 250 to update the data. Therefore, the MP3 player taught in Bum is immovable as it requires connection to a host in order to download and store data. If a host is not available, Bum's MP3 player will encounter difficulties to download or update its data.

While the digital sound file playback reproducer disclosed in the present application is substantially similar to the MP3 player taught in Bum, the present digital sound file playback reproducer is more advanced than the MP3 player recited in Bum because the digital sound file playback reproducer of the present invention does not require an internal memory device, nor does it require downloading of sound files via a computer, and the sound files can be updated through other recording mediums. Moreover, the digital sound file playback reproducer of the present invention is designed and improved such that it is portable and can be used without a host. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that Bum fails to disclose or teach the invention as recited in present claims 1-12. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and allowance of all of the claims are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, claims 1-12 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: August 9, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Replacement Sheet – Fig. 1